

Week Ending Friday, January 2, 2009

**Letter to Congressional Leaders
Transmitting the 2008 Global
Nuclear Security Report**

December 23, 2008

*Dear Madam Speaker: (Dear Mr.
President:)*

I am pleased to transmit to the Congress, consistent with the requirements of section 3134 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008 (Public Law 110–181), the enclosed report entitled, “The Global Nuclear Security Report 2008.”

This report, compiled by the Departments of State, Defense, and Energy, provides a list of all known sites worldwide containing nuclear weapons, formula quantities of strategic special nuclear material, and related equipment. It also details the United States comprehensive nuclear nonproliferation effort designed to help secure nuclear material, equipment, and expertise worldwide, and cooperation with international partners on this crucial global imperative. The report includes information on program plans and priorities, interagency cooperation, programmatic and budgetary requirements, and international engagement related to this vital national security priority. We have expanded and accelerated our nuclear security and nonproliferation efforts internationally to now include partnerships with over 100 countries worldwide.

I am proud of the significant accomplishments the United States has achieved to help address the risk of nuclear proliferation and secure nuclear materials globally, as outlined in this report.

Sincerely,

George W. Bush

NOTE: Identical letters were sent to Nancy Pelosi, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Richard B. Cheney, President of the Senate. This letter was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on December 29.

**Proclamation 8332—To Implement
the United States-Oman Free Trade
Agreement**

December 29, 2008

*By the President of the United States
of America*

A Proclamation

1. On January 19, 2006, the United States entered into the United States-Oman Free Trade Agreement (the “Agreement”). The Congress approved the Agreement in section 101(a) of the United States-Oman Free Trade Agreement Implementation Act (the “Implementation Act”) (Public Law 109–283, 120 Stat. 1191) (19 U.S.C. 3805 note).

2. Section 105(a) of the Implementation Act authorizes the President to establish or designate within the Department of Commerce an office that shall be responsible for providing administrative assistance to panels established under chapter 20 of the Agreement.

3. Section 201 of the Implementation Act authorizes the President to proclaim such modifications or continuation of any duty, such continuation of duty-free or excise treatment, or such additional duties, as the President determines to be necessary or appropriate to carry out or apply Articles 2.3, 2.5, 2.6, 3.2.8, and 3.2.9, and the schedule of duty reductions with respect to Oman set forth in Annex 2–B of the Agreement.

4. Consistent with section 201(a)(2) of the Implementation Act, Oman is to be removed from the enumeration of designated beneficiary developing countries eligible for the benefits of the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) on the date the Agreement entered into force. Further, consistent with section 604 of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended (the “1974 Act”) (19 U.S.C. 2483), I have determined that other technical and conforming changes to the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTS) are

necessary to reflect that Oman is no longer eligible to receive the benefits of the GSP.

5. Section 202 of the Implementation Act sets forth certain rules for determining whether a good is an originating good for the purpose of implementing preferential tariff treatment provided for under the Agreement. I have decided that it is necessary to include these rules of origin, together with particular rules applicable to certain other goods, in the HTS.

6. Section 204 of the Implementation Act authorizes the President to take certain enforcement actions relating to trade with Oman in textile and apparel goods.

7. Subtitle B of title III of the Implementation Act authorizes the President to take certain actions in response to a request by an interested party for relief from serious damage or actual threat thereof to a domestic industry producing certain textile or apparel articles.

8. Executive Order 11651 of March 3, 1972, as amended, established the Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements (CITA), consisting of representatives of the Departments of State, the Treasury, Commerce and Labor, and the Office of the United States Trade Representative, with the representative of the Department of Commerce as Chairman, to supervise the implementation of textile trade agreements. Consistent with section 301 of title 3, United States Code, when carrying out functions vested in the President by statute and assigned by the President to CITA, the officials collectively exercising those functions are all to be officers required to be appointed by the President with the advice and consent of the Senate.

9. Section 604 of the 1974 Act, as amended, authorizes the President to embody in the HTS the substance of relevant provisions of that Act, or other Acts affecting import treatment, and of actions taken thereunder, including the removal, modification, continuance, or imposition of any rate of duty or other import restriction.

Now, Therefore, I, George W. Bush, President of the United States of America, acting under the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, including but not limited

to section 604 of the 1974 Act; sections 105(a), 201, 202, and 204, and subtitle B of title III, of the Implementation Act; and section 301 of title 3, United States Code, and having made the determination under section 101(b) of the Implementation Act necessary for the exchange of notes, do hereby proclaim:

(1) In order to provide generally for the preferential tariff treatment being accorded under the Agreement, to set forth rules for determining whether goods imported into the customs territory of the United States are eligible for preferential tariff treatment under the Agreement, to provide certain other treatment to originating goods of Oman for the purposes of the Agreement, to provide tariff-rate quotas with respect to certain originating goods of Oman, to reflect Oman's removal from the enumeration of designated beneficiary developing countries for purposes of the GSP, and to make technical and conforming changes in the general notes to the HTS, the HTS is modified as set forth in Annex I of Publication 4050 of the United States International Trade Commission, entitled, *Modifications to the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States Implementing the United States-Oman Free Trade Agreement* (Publication 4050), which is incorporated by reference into this proclamation.

(2) In order to implement the initial stage of duty elimination provided for in the Agreement and to provide for future staged reductions in duties for originating goods of Oman for purposes of the Agreement, the HTS is modified as provided in Annex II of Publication 4050, effective on the dates specified in the relevant sections of such publication and on any subsequent dates set forth for such duty reductions in that publication.

(3) The amendments to the HTS made by paragraphs (1) and (2) of this proclamation shall be effective with respect to goods entered, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, on or after the relevant dates indicated in Annex II of Publication 4050.

(4) The Secretary of Commerce is authorized to exercise my authority under section 105(a) of the Implementation Act to establish or designate an office within the Department

of Commerce to carry out the functions set forth in that section.

(5) The CITA is authorized to exercise my authority under section 204 of the Implementation Act to exclude textile and apparel goods from the customs territory of the United States; to determine whether an enterprise's production of, and capability to produce, goods are consistent with statements by the enterprise; to find that an enterprise has knowingly or willfully engaged in circumvention; and to deny preferential tariff treatment to textile and apparel goods.

(6) The CITA is authorized to exercise the functions of the President under subtitle B of title III of the Implementation Act to review requests, and to determine whether to commence consideration of such requests; to cause to be published in the *Federal Register* a notice of commencement of consideration of a request and notice seeking public comment thereon; to determine whether imports of an Omani textile or apparel article are causing serious damage, or actual threat thereof, to a domestic industry producing an article that is like, or directly competitive with, the imported article; and to provide relief from imports of an article that is the subject of such a determination.

(7) All provisions of previous proclamations and Executive Orders that are inconsistent with the actions taken in this proclamation are superseded to the extent of such inconsistency.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-ninth day of December, in the year of our Lord two thousand eight, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-third.

George W. Bush

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:45 a.m., December 30, 2008]

NOTE: This proclamation was published in the *Federal Register* on December 31.

Proclamation 8333—National Mentoring Month, 2009

December 30, 2008

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

During National Mentoring Month, we recognize the millions of individuals who dedicate themselves to making a difference in the lives of others, and we underscore our commitment to supporting these soldiers in America's armies of compassion.

Every day across our great Nation, men and women of many different backgrounds work to inspire our next generation of leaders. By sharing their time and experiences, mentors help instill important values that encourage America's youth to set high goals and achieve their dreams. Mentors demonstrate that the strength of our Nation lies in the hearts and souls of our citizens and that a positive influence in someone's life helps them secure a more hopeful future.

My Administration has been committed to building a culture of service, citizenship, and responsibility. Through the Mentoring Children of Prisoners program, volunteers help provide consistent guidance and support so that these children can lead lives of opportunity and achievement. The USA Freedom Corps is strengthening mentoring opportunities in America and spreading a message of hope across our Nation. The Helping America's Youth initiative, led by First Lady Laura Bush, motivates caring adults to connect with youth to help them to grow up to be responsible and successful adults. By working together, we can enrich the lives of our next generation and continue a legacy of kindness and encouragement.

I appreciate our Nation's mentors and all those who contribute to their community by helping to change a child's life. For more information on volunteering to be a mentor, visit volunteer.gov. During National Mentoring Month, we honor the many Americans who have touched the lives of others with their compassion, and we reflect on their efforts toward building a stronger and brighter future for all.